ABSTRACT

Services are provided in an architecture utilizing a framework of standardized interconnection mechanisms that allow for the dynamic addition of new services that meet rules for the distributed services network. Likewise, new agents may readily be added to the network.

5   The network architecture is composed of agent software at the broadband subscriber endpoint in conversation with server software at the service provider location. Under the present architecture, certain minimum service functionality is provided to any subscriber by way of a registration service for new subscribers, a login service for existing subscribers, subscriber profile services, connection services and plug-in management services. Through this network, a subscriber can

10   access these services as well as additional services that are dynamically added to the network.